

What is claimed is:

1. A conversion pad for attaching an abrasive article to a sanding tool, comprising:

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- (a) a supporting layer comprising a backing material and a moisture barrier arranged on at least a portion of said backing material, thereby to protect said backing material from moisture; and
- (b) a layer of attachment material affixed to said supporting layer for attaching the abrasive article to the conversion pad.

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2. A conversion pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said backing material is interposed between a pair of moisture barrier layers.

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3. A conversion pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said layer of backing material comprises vulcanized fiber board.

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4. A conversion pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said moisture barrier comprises at least one of polyurethane, wax, epoxy, polypropylene, polyethylene terephthalate, polyvinyl butyral, polyethylene, latex, acrylic, enamel, and tar.

5. A conversion pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said layer of attachment material comprises a layer of hook-type fasteners.

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6. A conversion pad as defined in claim 5, wherein said layer of hook-type fasteners is affixed to said backing material with a heat resistant hot melt adhesive.

7. A conversion pad comprising a supporting layer and a layer of attachment material arranged on said supporting layer, wherein said supporting layer comprises a backing comprising vulcanized fiber board.

5 8. A conversion pad as defined in claim 7, wherein said supporting layer further comprises a moisture barrier arranged on at least a portion of said backing, thereby to protect said backing material from moisture

9. A conversion pad as defined in claim 8, wherein said supporting layer is
10 adhesively bonded with said attachment material with a heat resistant nylon hot melt adhesive.

10. A conversion pad as defined in claim 9, wherein said supporting layer comprises a layer of backing material interposed between a pair of moisture-proof
15 barrier layers, thereby to protect the backing from moisture.

11. A conversion pad as defined in claim 10, wherein said moisture-proof barrier layers comprise at least one of polyurethane, wax, epoxy, polypropylene, polyethylene terephthalate, polyvinyl butyral, polyethylene, latex, acrylic, enamel, and tar.